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Provisional summary record of the second part* of the 57th meeting

Held at headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 6 March 2003, at 2.30 p.m.

Chairman: Sir Jeremy Greenstock (United Kingdom)

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* The summary record of the first part of the meeting, held on Thursday, 6 February, at 9.30 a.m., appears as document S/AC.40/SR.57.

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The meeting was reconvened at 2.35 p.m.

Special meeting with international, regional and subregional organizations

Role of regional and subregional organizations in strengthening global counter-terrorism capacity (continued)

1. **Mr. Selat** (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) said that the Association encouraged compliance with international standards among its member countries, including in the field of counter-terrorism and within the framework of its free trade arrangement. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) had issued several political declarations relating to counter-terrorism, including jointly with the United States of America, the European Union and China. Terrorism was seen as a challenge to the realization of the ASEAN Vision 2020 and to the attainment of peace, progress and prosperity in the subregion.

2. Practical discussion of counter-terrorism issues at the subregional level was based on the Work Programme to Implement the ASEAN Plan of Action to Combat Transnational Crime, which also covered piracy, money-laundering, cybercrime, illegal drug-trafficking and arms smuggling. The Work Programme was implemented through information exchange, cooperation in legal and law-enforcement matters, institutional capacity-building, training and extra-regional cooperation. Mechanisms also existed for monitoring progress, identifying new practical initiatives and approving regional capacity-building that avoided duplication. An ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime was held on an annual basis, involving senior officials in the areas of transport, customs, finance, narcotic drugs and law enforcement, and an ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime was convened every two years, or as required. ASEAN also sought to promote ratification by its member countries of relevant conventions. At the international level, ASEAN was keen to exchange information on the detection and deterrence of the use of biological agents and other materials of mass destruction, as well as technologies for combating cybercrime. It would also particularly appreciate assistance in developing a regional convention to combat terrorism and promoting implementation of existing international treaties, particularly by newer

member countries. ASEAN was also in the process of establishing a comprehensive database of treaties on transnational crime and terrorism.

3. **Mr. Simancas Carrion** (European Police Office) said that the European Police Office (Europol), as the European Union's law-enforcement organization, was mainly operational in nature. However it also possessed considerable analytical capacity, and generated strategic reports and threat assessments for use by its member countries. The Europol terrorism task force, established by the Council of the European Union (Ministers of Justice and Home Affairs) in response to the attacks of 11 September 2001, had demonstrated the value of sharing information between national police services. Key priorities for Europol included combating the financing of terrorism and developing common tools for use within the European Union. Such tools could easily be replicated for use in other regions.

4. No reference had yet been made to the victims of terrorism, of whom there was no direct mention in Security Council resolution 1373 (2001). Terrorists had a purely utilitarian attitude towards victims, whom they merely used to exert pressure on Governments; Governments for their part had an obligation to ensure the security and protect the human rights of victims, including persons whose freedoms were restricted by terrorism. Europol had established some cooperation agreements with other organizations, specifically relating to victims. Upon his return to Europol headquarters, he would promote new cooperation agreements with other relevant organizations participating in the special meeting. Europol was entirely at the service of the Counter-Terrorism Committee for follow-up activities.

5. **Ms. Prost** (Commonwealth Secretariat) said that as an interregional organization with very limited resources at its disposal, the Commonwealth Secretariat was forced to focus on those areas in which it had a comparative advantage. In the area of counter-terrorism, it provided practical support to its member countries for the domestic implementation of international legal standards and had designed special tools to that end. Dialogue at the interregional level focused on the difficulties being experienced by countries in implementing those standards, the aim being to support rather than complicate domestic processes. Since many member countries had little or no access to information technology, the

Commonwealth Secretariat also played an important role in disseminating information in the form of annual bulletins. A ministerial committee on counter-terrorism met once a year, while the operational structure for counter-terrorism consisted of a committee of four persons, including one contact person. Although not elaborate, such a structure allowed for communication with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and had proved effective in relaying information to member countries. The work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee was invaluable, enabling organizations such as her own to avoid duplication and learn from each other's experiences.

6. **The Chairman** said that the experience of the Commonwealth Secretariat showed that much could be achieved with a modest structure. Even the Counter-Terrorism Committee did not have many people in its operational arm. Only one or two people were necessary to engage in the sort of international liaison necessary to bring a meeting such as the current one into being.

7. **Mr. Hirsch** (International Peace Academy) said that the special meeting highlighted not only the importance of sharing technical information but also the need for frank and open discussion of the social, economic and political difficulties still being encountered in the counter-terrorism field, including by the Counter-Terrorism Committee itself.

8. The International Peace Academy was a policy research organization which sought, inter alia, to help the United Nations link its peace and security agenda with its development agenda. "Learning lessons" was not just a technical matter. It also required an open and realistic assessment and frank discussion of the competing priorities and trade-offs between counter-terrorism and issues such as human rights and free trade, as well as the political and economic interests of Member States. There was also a need for better understanding, both within and among international and regional organizations, of comparative advantages. The Committee's assessments, for their part, should be viewed as a diagnostic tool for recognizing shortcomings and limitations, not for criticizing individual States. Lateral exchanges between regional organizations were also vital, and the initiative of the representative of the Organization of American States (OAS) was most welcome in that regard.

9. It was also vital to bridge the perceptual gaps between the developed and developing worlds on counter-terrorism and related issues. That had been one of the aims of the conference held by the International Peace Academy in October 2002, entitled "Responding to Terrorism: What role for the United Nations?" Participants from the developing world had urged the United Nations to adopt a holistic approach to counter-terrorism that integrated responsiveness to the perceived and actual grievances of peoples in Africa, Asia and Latin America with the post-11 September 2001 security agenda. The Counter-Terrorism Committee should take full account of that aspect in its ongoing work.

10. **The Chairman** said that the International Peace Academy was the intellectual conscience of the United Nations and urged it to continue its cooperation.

Role of international and regional organizations on assistance

11. **The Chairman** said that the Counter-Terrorism Committee was attempting to facilitate the provision of counter-terrorism assistance to Member States for capacity-building, including by preparing a matrix of global requests which reflected the assistance needs identified through the Committee's implementation monitoring process. The Committee recognized that States were experiencing difficulty in making counter-terrorism a priority against other competing priorities.

12. **Ms. Waxman** (World Bank) said that the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) had been working with increased intensity on joint projects since the events of 11 September 2001. They had a competitive edge in the provision of technical assistance to countries, applicable also to the field of counter-terrorism. The Bretton Woods institutions not only conducted in-depth assessments of countries' compliance with international standards, but also had staff in most countries who were well versed in the country's history, culture, economy and aspirations. The World Bank and IMF also enjoyed long-established partnerships with other organizations at the international, multi-regional, regional and subregional levels and held regular meetings with them. They had devised a joint action plan for regular follow-up of country assessments, which enabled them to identify country needs and help Governments develop sequenced action plans of their own. The World Bank and IMF also ensured that the funding issue was

incorporated into annual assistance strategies. While providing short-term funding, they were also active in locating longer-term mentors.

13. In addition to their regional and subregional outreach projects, the World Bank and IMF had also held global, interactive videoconferences, as an inexpensive way of involving high-level policy-makers. Regional and subregional conferences had also been convened with a focus on sharing experiences and best practices to combat money-laundering and terrorism. The Bank's subregional workshops had focused, *inter alia*, on establishing financial intelligence units with the assistance of the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF) and FATF-style regional bodies. The World Bank had also produced a "desk guide", available in both electronic and paper format and updated regularly, on international codes, organizational contacts, international and regional bodies, legal, regulatory and institutional objectives and potential sources of assistance. A global technical assistance clearing-house database had also been developed jointly with other organizations, which detailed assistance requirements and attempted — although with some difficulty — to track the delivery of technical assistance. Thus far, 371 assistance requests had been received from countries in the areas of legal infrastructure, laws and regulations, training for the judiciary and law-enforcement personnel, capacity-building, institutional strengthening, codes of practice, operational advice, private-sector involvement and equipment. The World Bank hoped to share its valuable experience in developing databases with other participants. The Counter-Terrorism Committee could use its leadership role to encourage other organizations, especially the FATF-style regional bodies, to help fill the geographical lacunae in the database, particularly in respect of sources of technical assistance for countries in Central Asia, Africa and the Middle East.

14. The Committee might consider holding meetings at the regional level, starting with Africa, with the African Union as contact point, to build strong regional capacity for providing technical assistance and relaying information on assistance needs. The Bretton Woods institutions would be particularly keen to support a meeting that emphasized the links between terrorism and development, in particular the impact of terrorism on the poor.

15. **Mr. Valenzuela Marzo** (European Commission) said that European Union efforts to combat terrorism

were based on an action plan adopted on 21 September 2001. The plan focused on the enhancement of cooperation and coordination among member States and on the provision of assistance to non-members.

16. It had become clear when the Union had reviewed its counter-terrorism activities that many of its existing initiatives, although not categorized as anti-terrorism measures, were making a valuable contribution to efforts in that area. Such initiatives included the integration of border and customs management, training of police officers and members of the judiciary and capacity-building in financial administration. The Union was now seeking to mainstream counter-terrorism into its regular cooperation activities with developing countries. One of the lessons learned from such cooperation was the importance of assisting partners not only in developing standards and best practices but also in implementing them.

17. In July 2002, the Council of Ministers had identified, in consultation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee, a small group of countries in which the Union would implement a number of specific counter-terrorism initiatives. In considering what assistance to provide, the Council of Ministers had taken into account the relevance of the initiatives to the fight against terrorism and to the Union's foreign policy, the willingness of the countries concerned to work with the Union and the existence of a European Union comparative advantage. In that connection, he emphasized the need for technical assistance providers to play to their strengths.

18. The Union was committed to working with other regional organizations to help them build capacity for the efficient delivery of technical assistance in combating terrorism. In order to expand their assistance activities, regional organizations needed up-to-date information on the needs of partner countries and organizations, the actions of other donors, and the existence of coordination mechanisms. The Counter-Terrorism Committee had an important role to play as a repository for such information, although the possibility of devolving some of its responsibilities to regional organizations should be explored further.

19. Lastly, he underscored that, while new initiatives were more eye-catching, the dividends from building counter-terrorism elements into existing programmes would likely be greater over the long term. In that connection, it was important not to lose sight of the

bigger picture, in particular, the challenges represented by the millennium development goals.

20. **Mr. Ward** (Assistance Expert, Counter-Terrorism Committee) said that the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) was a major undertaking for many States, particularly those with limited capacities and resources. Based on the reports received by the Counter-Terrorism Committee, drafting of legislation had been identified as a primary area of need for most States, with the deficiencies being most acute in counter-terrorism law and in banking and financial law and regulations. Many States also needed help in drafting appropriate legislation for the implementation of the 12 international instruments for the prevention and suppression of terrorism. Most lacked experience in counter-terrorism, particularly in combating the financing of terrorism, and a large number needed to build capacity in their institutional mechanisms to support the legislative framework.

21. In the first phase of its work, the Committee had focused on ensuring that all States had in place legislation covering all aspects of resolution 1373 (2001), that they had taken steps to become parties to the 12 international conventions and protocols against terrorism, and that they had established effective machinery for countering terrorist financing. In resolution 1377 (2001), the Security Council recognized that many States would require assistance in implementing all the requirements of resolution 1373 (2001) and invited States to inform the Counter-Terrorism Committee of areas in which they required such support. The Committee had explored with international, regional and subregional organizations the promotion of best practices in the areas covered by resolution 1373 (2001); the availability of existing technical, financial, regulatory, legislative or other assistance programmes that might facilitate the implementation of the resolution; and the development of possible synergies between those programmes.

22. Thus far, 108 States had requested assistance from the Committee or were receiving help directly from assistance providers, as shown in the matrix of requests for assistance and responses, which had been distributed informally. The need for assistance was becoming more obvious as more States reached a clearer understanding of what was expected of them. Regrettably, many of the States most in need of assistance had yet to request it, and he urged regional and subregional organizations to facilitate that process.

23. The Committee was seeking to facilitate self-help by making available information on standards and best practices and by establishing a directory of counter-terrorism information and sources of assistance, which could be accessed on its web site. The Committee was also encouraging donors to respond to the assistance needs identified as priorities for each State. Those needs, which were reflected in the matrix, were determined on the basis of the evaluation of the reports submitted by States and through consultations between the Committee's Technical Assistance team and individual States. The Committee was working with regional and sectoral organizations to tackle shortcomings that fell within their areas of competence, and to promote capacity-building within those organizations to enable them to respond to States' needs. The mention in the matrix of the assistance already being provided enabled potential donors to target their assistance programmes appropriately and avoid duplication and overlapping. Of course, it was also important to ensure that no gaps remained. While the Committee's Technical Assistance Team was the focal point for that process, the Committee itself did not provide technical assistance but facilitated its delivery.

24. Regional and subregional organizations, too, had an important role to play as vehicles through which region-wide technical assistance programmes could be developed and implemented. They enjoyed a number of advantages, including their affinity with local cultures, their understanding of their members' needs and their ability to leverage scarce assistance resources. He therefore wished to encourage all organizations that had a contribution to make to become fully engaged in providing technical assistance.

25. **Mr. Wilson** (Caribbean Financial Action Task Force) said that the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF), established in 1992, had considerable experience of monitoring compliance with international standards by its 29 members through its confidential mutual evaluation programme. A number of CFATF members had not only enacted effective anti-money-laundering legislation but were actively enforcing it, providing an example for others to follow. In order to achieve greater transparency the CFATF ministers had agreed to the publication of an annual report on the status of members' infrastructure for combating money-laundering and terrorist financing.

26. CFATF had given guidance to the recently established FATF-style regional body in eastern and southern Africa and was cooperating actively with the South American Financial Action Group. It would be ready to provide assistance with the development of a starter pack on establishing regional dialogue on adherence to international standards and to organize joint meetings and training initiatives with other regional bodies. It was currently developing a matrix of its members' technical assistance and training needs and was working with global partners to ensure that those needs were met.

27. Regrettably, some countries lacked both the financial and human resources to become full partners in the fight against money-laundering and terrorist financing. Implementation of new initiatives in such areas as international financial services was proving costly and burdensome for Governments in the Caribbean region; there was also tremendous pressure on the secretariats of FATF-style regional bodies. While the donor community had been generous, more assistance was needed. Donors should focus on sustainable long-term efforts, so that the recent gains made in strengthening structures against transnational organized crime and terrorism would not be completely undermined by the vast resources and increasing sophistication of criminal groups. Close coordination between donors and regional bodies was necessary to ensure that States took full advantage of the abundance of assistance available.

28. Lastly, noting that strong anti-money-laundering measures were essential for combating terrorist financing and that the 40 recommendations of FATF were not legally binding, he called for the elaboration of a United Nations convention against money-laundering.

29. **Mr. Gunaydin** (Southeast European Cooperative Initiative) said that, in 1999, the 11 members of the Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI) had signed the Agreement on Cooperation to Prevent and Combat Transborder Crime, which provided for cooperation among the region's police and customs authorities. In 2000, the SECI Regional Center for Combating Transborder Crime had been established in Bucharest, Romania. The Center, which was staffed by 19 liaison officers from 12 member States, had assisted with more than 3,000 criminal investigations, and many cases had been solved as a result of joint operations it had coordinated.

30. On 14 September 2001, the SECI Joint Cooperation Committee had adopted the Bucharest Declaration on the Suppression of Terrorism, which was aimed at promoting the exchange of information on criminal organizations with links to terrorism and sources of financing. In addition, the SECI Center had established a working group to provide assistance to the United States Government in identifying and bringing to justice the perpetrators of the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001. In October 2001, the working group had disseminated a watch list containing some 300 names among the countries of south-east Europe. As a result, suspicious bank accounts and transactions had been detected in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Turkey. The working group also provided information on the movement of refugees and illegal migrants from conflict areas in south-east Europe and assisted SECI member States in developing counter-terrorism strategies.

31. A regional workshop on terrorism held in July 2002 had led to the adoption of a two-pronged approach to combating terrorism involving both legislative reform and joint operations. A counter-terrorism task force was to be established within the SECI Center as the focal point for the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) and other relevant international instruments. The Center was also engaged in efforts to combat the traffic in small arms and light weapons and chemical, biological and nuclear materials.

32. **Mr. Salah** (Islamic Development Bank) said that, as a multilateral development institution, the Islamic Development Bank stood ready to assist member countries in increasing their capacity to meet international standards on combating money-laundering and terrorist financing. The Bank was able both to provide and to finance technical assistance programmes. Given the importance of avoiding duplication of effort, it would strongly support the establishment of a coordination mechanism consisting of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and international and multilateral development institutions.

33. **Mr. Hajhosseini** (Organization of the Islamic Conference) said that the Organization of the Islamic Conference, an interregional organization with members in Africa, Asia and South America, was committed to the fight against terrorism. In 2002, the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers had adopted

the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on International Terrorism, whereby it had established an open-ended ministerial-level committee on international terrorism. On 31 March 2003, a meeting of experts would be held in Algiers to prepare a plan of action on combating terrorism.

34. The Chairman commended the way in which the Islamic States were working together in the fight against terrorism despite the related political problems which particularly affected those States.

35. **Mr. Lemay** (Global Programme against Money Laundering) said that the infrastructure needed for combating money-laundering included criminalization, financial record-keeping, transaction reporting and financial intelligence units. The Global Programme against Money Laundering of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime had learned from experience that partnership in the delivery of technical assistance was highly desirable and was applying that approach in its collaborative efforts with partners, including international organizations and bilateral providers.

36. The Programme had found that, although traditional short-term training activities such as workshops could be effective, there was a need for long-term direct delivery of expertise and experience, particularly in the developing countries, through mentoring, which involved putting people in the field for six months or more to build capacity at the country level. Efforts were also under way to develop interactive computer-based training: a basic anti-money-laundering computer training module for law enforcement would shortly be available and other modules would soon follow. Such training could reach thousands of people at very low cost, and its delivery and results could be tracked.

37. The desirability of feedback from assistance providers to the Committee and to donors was becoming increasingly apparent. A good example was the need to help States to deal with various problems in relation to foreign financial assets which they had seized or frozen pursuant to Security Council resolutions. The Programme had been working extensively with the Eastern and Southern African Anti-Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG). That Group had asked him to make it known that it had every intention of participating actively in efforts to combat the financing of terrorism.

38. In response to a question from the Chairman, he said that the Programme's activities were constrained by the staffing available. However, teams for particular missions usually included experts loaned to the Programme by Member States or occasionally by other organizations or the private sector. The Programme also conducted joint missions with the Global Programme against Terrorism.

39. **Mr. Iskandarov** (Working Group on Counter-Terrorism of the Georgia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan and Moldova (GUUAM) Group) said that the members of the Georgia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan and Moldova (GUUAM) Group were eager to combat terrorism, which had affected all five countries by dealing with its root causes and strengthening their counter terrorist activities through constant exchanges of information, proactive cooperation with relevant international bodies, harmonization of national legislation with international legal instruments, and cooperation on border and customs control and on issues relating to immigration and financial control. Among the root causes of terrorism were aggressive separatism and militant nationalism, which should be addressed very carefully by the international community.

40. In following up the current meeting, the States of the GUUAM Group would look for ways to establish close contacts with bodies such as the International Monetary Fund and the International Maritime Organization. They would also present proposals for field trips by Committee experts to assist with legislative harmonization and draw the Committee's attention to new terrorist threats and potential targets, such as pipelines and means of transport.

41. **Mr. Sarsekov** (Anti-Terrorist Centre of the Commonwealth of Independent States) said that the membership of the Anti-Terrorist Centre of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) included specialists from all the CIS member States, who were preparing a list of priority issues relating to the fight against terrorism. The Centre also produced and distributed legal texts, statistics and other documents of interest to counter-terrorism specialists, provided legal and technical assistance to counter-terrorism organizations in the region and conducted joint counter-terrorism exercises. Training was also provided to government agencies engaged in counter-terrorism, often involving visits by officials from one State to the agencies of another.

42. **Ms. Sullivan** (International Organization for Migration) said that, because of its cross-border dimensions, international terrorism was a migration issue. It touched on a range of matters directly affecting immigration policy, in particular immigration fraud, national security, integration, ethnic affairs and citizenship. Immigration policy could be an important vehicle for better application of law enforcement and intelligence and other efforts to fight terrorism. Immigration authorities could contribute to national and international intelligence-gathering through direct encounters with illegal immigrants and through partner networks.

43. Measures were being widely adopted to enhance the integrity of security features and develop new ways of recording and verifying traveller and migrant identities. All the major immigrant-receiving States were looking at ways of increasing data exchange among authorities and with carriers and other States. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) was conducting a model capacity-building programme in Jamaica, funded by the United States of America. On the technical assistance side, the programme aimed at the improvement of border management systems through the provision of technical inputs at airports and seaports and a targeted training programme. An automated border management system would give inspectors real-time information about travellers and their documents by querying databases and alert lists. Inspectors would have the information needed to identify unwanted or suspect travellers before they entered the country. Since information input was automated, inspectors would be able to spend more time interviewing travellers.

44. A key element in the proposed system was entry and exit tracking, whereby records would be created for each attempt to enter or leave the country. Entry/exit mismatches would be reported by the system to a central management location. The system would also help to authenticate travellers and their documents by querying passport- and visa-issuance databases. The addition of alert-list monitoring would provide the ability to query text-based and image-based alert lists in real time, facilitating the identification of individuals travelling under false identities or using lost or stolen documents and those who should be detained for other reasons.

45. The programme would support institutional strengthening through technical cooperation assistance

in policy matters, legislation and regulations. That could be coupled with specific training in areas such as risk profiling for combating smuggling and trafficking, documentation fraud prevention, criminal intelligence capabilities related to migration management and responses to transnational organized crime.

46. Since no two countries were faced with identical challenges, responses must be tailored to specific needs. An important first step in identifying needs was an interactive assessment that encouraged open dialogue and ownership of the eventual interventions. In such an approach, programme components could be applied from a menu of tested modules to form a comprehensive and targeted strategy.

47. **Mr. Costa** (Financial Action Task Force for South America) said that the Financial Action Task Force for South America (GAFISUD) had an action plan calling for the adoption of national measures to implement the eight special recommendations on terrorist financing issued by FATF, regional exchanges of experience and expertise among national experts and increased collaboration with the United Nations and other relevant international bodies. GAFISUD had recently launched a self-assessment exercise on compliance with the special recommendations. It was placing strong emphasis on the need to reinforce scrutiny in the areas of currency exchanges remittances and international capital movements and endeavouring to coordinate its activities in that area with those of other relevant international bodies.

48. Coordination and training were of vital importance. A training centre for anti-money-laundering activities had been launched, and many activities had been developed in cooperation with the private sector. Such cooperation was particularly vital when it came to concrete implementation of legislation and related measures. An internationally agreed definition of terrorism was also badly needed. The new methodology of IMF and the World Bank was a very useful approach to combating money-laundering and would help the GAFISUD countries in the fulfilment of their international obligations.

49. **Mr. Manjaze** (Southern African Development Community) said that the member States of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) needed assistance in the area of implementation, particularly of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001). Not all SADC member States had ratified or

acceded to the 12 international counter-terrorism conventions. SADC countries needed help with the training of their security forces and assistance in coordinating the work of the many entities involved in security matters, both within and among States. They would benefit from more information and sharing of experience on the issues of money-laundering, border control and the proliferation of light weapons. He supported the remark of the previous speaker regarding the need for an agreed definition of terrorism.

50. **Mr. Buckley** (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) said that the member States of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) had begun implementation of a Partnership Action Plan against Terrorism, in response to Security Council resolution 1373 (2001). Following the current meeting, NATO would accelerate its work and take greater account of the activities of the Committee and of specialist international organizations in setting standards, and would use those standards as points of reference. If members of the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council were having difficulties in implementing those standards, NATO could help them in a number of ways, including the use of trust funds, clearing houses and mentoring schemes.

51. **Mr. Seif El-Dawla** (Expert, Counter-Terrorism Committee) said that regional standards, measures and conventions had a crucial role to play in the effective implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), through both a vertical and a horizontal approach. The vertical approach involved introducing common counter-terrorism measures into the domestic legislation of States in a given region. The horizontal approach was manifested in cooperation among States within the region. The effect of the vertical approach was considerable in international cooperation to combat terrorism, particularly the effective implementation of resolution 1373 (2001). Regional organizations should be aware that the effect of their regional standards, measures and laws extended beyond the region and became internationally effective.

52. **Mr. Baity** (Egmont Group) said that financial intelligence units were an important end product of some of the technical assistance activities discussed during the current meeting. A financial intelligence unit was an agency within the Government whose function was to receive, analyse and disseminate information received from the financial sector. Such units could play a vital role in combating the financing

of terrorism. The goal of the Egmont Group was to ensure that information was exchanged in a timely manner and to overcome the many artificial barriers to such exchanges among counterpart authorities. A critical problem was that the financing of terrorism was not yet universally defined characterized as an offence in such a way as to ensure the necessary sharing of information. It was highly important that Member States should fully understand the functions and activities of financial intelligence units.

53. **Mr. Mitropoulos** (International Maritime Organization), with reference to the remark by the representative of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization concerning trust funds, recalled that the Diplomatic Conference on Maritime Security held in December 2002 at IMO headquarters had called for the establishment of a maritime security trust fund to provide a dedicated source of financial support for maritime security technical cooperation activities. Consultations were currently under way within IMO to determine how to give effect to the resolution.

54. **Mr. Oskarsson** (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe) said that, like the World Bank, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) had found Internet databases to be a useful way of facilitating contact between potential assistance donors and recipients and recording assistance that had been provided. OSCE would contribute to the Committee's matrix of assistance needs; however, a more systematic procedure was required for updating the matrix and showing trends, gaps and overlaps in assistance requests. It must be borne in mind that many small countries wished to ratify international treaties but were unable to implement their provisions, so that there was a need to be more proactive in providing assistance. Furthermore, while donors were listed in the matrix, there was no mention of the implementing organizations. Criteria should also be developed for recording assistance that was related to resolution 1373 (2001) but was not requested through the Committee. It would be useful to create a second matrix to record assistance provided by the regional and subregional organizations.

55. Programme and project planning procedures should include contact with organizations active in the relevant thematic areas and geographic regions. OSCE had established partnerships with various States and organizations in other regions and cooperated with

them through, inter alia, their diplomatic missions in Vienna. It planned to focus on interregional aspects of counter-terrorism cooperation by organizing a meeting with out-of-area organizations in Vienna in the near future.

56. **Mr. Spicka** (International Criminal Police Organization) said that the frightening threat of bioterrorism had been largely ignored by the global counter-terrorism effort. The International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) had embarked on a biocriminalization and bioterrorism initiative in cooperation with the European Police Office (Europol).

57. **Mr. Kellman** (International Criminal Police Organization), referring to the new Interpol initiative, said that pathogens could be transported undetected through any airport. Prevention was essential, since the consequences of a bioterrorist attack were too grave for the world to take satisfaction from prosecution after the event. Bioterrorism was not necessarily a more serious problem than other forms of terrorism, but it did raise unique issues, such as how to regulate access to pathogens and ensure the security of biopharmaceutical laboratories without impeding the legitimate development of that sector, particularly in the developing world; how to establish transport and customs controls that would prevent the smuggling of deadly biological agents; and how to monitor biological research, which was essential to the health and welfare of the world's population but could be diverted for catastrophic purposes.

58. The new initiative would analyse national legislation, develop white papers on relevant issues and offer workshops for scientists, law-enforcement officials, diplomats and representatives of international organizations. He invited all participants in the special meeting of the Committee to share their expertise with Interpol.

59. **The Chairman** said that he would recommend to the Permanent Representative of Spain, who would soon replace him as Chairman of the Committee, that a meeting with representatives of Interpol should be held in the near future.

60. **Ms. Richards-Johnson** (Caribbean Community) said that her region did not lack political will or knowledge in the area of counter-terrorism. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) had helped the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) establish a legislative drafting facility. Assistance in

the area of legislation had also been provided by other organizations such as the Commonwealth Secretariat and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. The problem for Caribbean States was how to implement that legislation, since they lacked enforcement and regulatory mechanisms, particularly in the areas of border control, domestic security, exchange of intelligence and contingency planning in the event of a terrorist incident. As a potential zone of terrorist activity, the Caribbean needed to strengthen its capacities and was grateful for the assistance it had received from a number of organizations; however, greater coordination between such providers was needed. It was also time for an open, cooperative effort to establish international standards for counter-terrorism. She joined the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force in calling for a United Nations convention against money-laundering. Lastly, she thanked the Assistance Expert for his efforts on behalf of the CARICOM States.

61. **Ms. Prost** (Commonwealth Secretariat) said that the delivery of assistance would be improved if a second matrix of needs were established to record the expertise and capacities of the regional organizations. The Commonwealth Secretariat often received assistance requests that it was unable to meet and would like to be able to refer the requesting States to more appropriate sources. In addition to reporting to the Committee on legal and other problems that arose during its discussions with its member States, it would be useful for the Commonwealth Secretariat to meet with the Committee's experts in order to learn whether other regions faced similar problems and to seek solutions for them.

62. **The Chairman** pointed out that a dialogue with the Committee's experts could be conducted at any time through electronic mail.

63. **Mr. Khoo** (Basel Committee on Banking Supervision) said that it was important for banks to know their customers. The Basel Committee set prudential standards for banks. Those standards had been incorporated into the common methodology developed by FATF, IMF and the World Bank. It also recommended that where the financing of terrorism was suspected, banks should provide information and full assistance to the relevant enforcement agencies. In the area of assistance, representatives of the Basel Committee secretariat visited States in order to explain the prudential standards. The Bank for International

Settlements, where the Basel Committee secretariat had its headquarters, had established a Financial Stability Institute, which disseminated information on best practices in banking supervision and could conduct focus seminars for regional groups.

Conclusions and closure of the meeting

64. **Ms. Brizuela de Ávila** (Organization of American States) said that the Organization of American States (OAS) would like to host another meeting with the Committee and the regional organizations at its headquarters in Washington.

65. **The Chairman** said that he would follow up on that offer and urged donor States to provide the necessary funding.

66. Summarizing the achievements of the special meeting, he noted that participants had laid stress on the importance of sharing information on existing global standards and codes in the field of counter-terrorism. The information provided by organizations should contain clearly written guidelines and interpretive notes in non-specialist language. The Committee would establish a web site on which such information could be posted.

67. While the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) was compulsory for States Members of the United Nations, compliance with many standards and codes was voluntary but should be encouraged. The Committee would endeavour to provide assistance to Governments that needed to amend their legislation and modify their practice and to regional and subregional organizations that lacked the necessary tools to monitor progress in those areas.

68. A coordinated, consistent approach to monitoring was needed. It was important to ensure that newly developed standards were consistent with existing ones and that human rights concerns were taken into account. The burden of reporting could be reduced if the relevant organizations posted on their web sites as much information as possible on their assessments and conclusions as models for other monitoring bodies; there was no need to mention specific States. The regional and subregional organizations should also develop machinery for collecting and passing on to their members the information that they received from international bodies.

69. Assistance providers should bear in mind that, while developing countries might have the necessary political will, they also needed tools and training in order to strengthen their counter-terrorism capacity as part of an overall development strategy. The Committee's mandate did not allow it to make the victims of terrorism its primary concern, but the regional and subregional organizations should take their needs into account and remember that a single major terrorist act could damage a region's economy for a long period of time. It was therefore in their interests to strengthen the capacities of their member States. Information-sharing was essential; the regional and subregional organizations should inform the Committee as they established links within and among themselves and should share the action plans which they developed. The Washington conference to be hosted by OAS would be an important step in that process.

70. The next phase of the global counter-terrorism effort would involve building on the existing political will and knowledge in order to improve implementation through meetings, technical cooperation, training, identification of needs and facilitation of assistance. As a result of the special meeting, the regional and subregional organizations knew who their potential partners were. They should urge their member States to request assistance as needed and ensure that no State fell below the standards set for their regions. The Committee would remain in contact with all participants in the special meeting and would develop an expanded directory of contact points. Organizations, in turn, should make sure that the contact information that they submitted to the Committee was current. He would discuss with the Committee the development of a new assistance matrix that would reflect regional activities.

71. The Committee's fundamental goal was to make it easier for Member States to meet their obligations under resolution 1373 (2001). In order to do so, it needed information (preferably in one place) on standards, codes and best practices; its directory of counter-terrorism information and sources of assistance was designed to serve that purpose. New ideas, such as the proposal by the representative of NATO regarding the establishment of trust funds, were welcome. The regional organizations should identify gaps in implementation capacities. The Committee, for its part,

would develop databases compatible with those of other bodies, including the World Bank.

72. The assistance provided by participants in the special meeting should be operational, timely and results-oriented and should focus more closely on training and on coordination between donor mechanisms, bearing in mind the need to avoid duplication. There could be no further excuse for ignorance of what other relevant bodies were doing. Different donors and States would, of course, have different priorities; the Committee would keep in touch with all relevant organizations and develop its own priorities through input from its experts.

73. Counter-terrorism goals for the coming year should include the establishment of a global information network, not necessarily under that name. Participation would, of course, be voluntary for the regional organizations, since resolution 1373 (2001) was binding only on States Members of the United Nations. However, he hoped that every organization represented in the room would have or develop, with assistance from the Committee or from other sources as needed, a mechanism for the ongoing exchange of information. The Committee had endeavoured to set a standard for transparency; he was aware that such an approach was not the normal operating mode of some organizations, but the special meeting should make it easier in the future.

74. Political will must be translated into implementation; each participant, on the basis of the day's discussion, should develop an action plan for ensuring compliance with resolution 1373 (2001), including an honest evaluation of its own assistance needs. If possible, each organization should develop an electronic database accessible by others. Assistance providers, and particularly major donors such as OSCE, the European Union, the United States of America and IMF, should set themselves the goal of meeting all reasonable requests for assistance in the area of counter-terrorism during the coming year. The Committee could serve as a catalyst and could help coordinate funding for training programmes.

75. A follow-up kit on the special meeting would be compiled and sent to all participants. Organizations were invited to send any additional material which they would like to have reproduced in summary form.

76. During the next period, the Committee would begin to evaluate the implementation of resolution

1373 (2001), paragraph 4, which dealt with weapons of mass destruction. To that end, it would set up a process for working with organizations active in that area, including Interpol, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Draft outcome document

77. **The Chairman** drew attention to a draft outcome document and read out a series of amendments that had been proposed by various participants. The first sentence in paragraph 3 would be reworded to state that specific action points had been provisionally agreed by participants, subject to approval by their operational headquarters. A comma, followed by the words "and information about their activities and mechanisms in the counter-terrorism field", would be inserted at the end of paragraph 3 (a); the words "and representatives of the Counter-Terrorism Committee" would be added after "each other's representatives" in paragraph 3 (d); and the words "the rule of law and" would be inserted after "respect for" in paragraph 3 (e). The words "of contact points responsible" would be added after "network" in paragraph 4 (a); a comma and the words "mechanisms and institutions" would follow "relevant activities" in paragraph 4 (b); and the words "laid down by international organizations which are" would be deleted from paragraph 4 (e). Lastly, the word "similar" would be replaced by "periodic" in paragraph 5.

78. He said that the outcome document, while not legally binding, would serve as a public expression of participants' commitment to the course of action described therein. If he heard no objection, he would take it the draft outcome document was provisionally agreed by participants.

79. *It was so decided.*

The meeting rose at 5.40 p.m.